AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-47. Canceled

48. (New)) A tensioner for tensioning a drive belt, comprising:
a housing;
an arm attached to the housing;
a reversible biasing element formed of a plurality of convolutions so that in a first orientation the convolutions spiral in a clockwise direction and in a second orientation the convolutions spiral in a counterclockwise direction;; and
a reversible indicator attachable with the housing or the arm, wherein the indicator is attachable in a first position to identify a first direction when the biasing element is in the first orientation and in a second position to identify a second direction when the biasing element is in the second orientation;
wherein the biasing element impedes attaching the indicator to the housing or arm in the first position when the biasing element is in the second orientation..

49. (New) The tensioner of claim 48 wherein the indicator is detachably connectable with the arm or the housing.

50. (New) The tensioner of claim 48 wherein the housing comprises a pocket and a portion of the biasing element projects into a first portion of the pocket when the biasing element is in the first orientation and the portion of the biasing element projects into a second portion of the pocket when the biasing element is in the second orientation, and wherein the indicator comprises an element cooperable with the portion of the biasing element projecting into the pocket to impede inserting the indicator into the pocket in the first position when the biasing element projects into the second portion of the pocket.

51. (New) The tensioner of claim 48 wherein the arm is releasably connected with the housing.

52. (New) The tensioner of claim 48 wherein the biasing element comprises a first end and a second end, wherein the first end of the biasing element engages the indicator to impede attaching the indicator to the housing or the arm in the first position when the biasing element is in the second orientation.

53. (New) The tensioner of claim 52 wherein the first end of the biasing element is positioned to facilitate connection of the indicator to the housing or the arm in the second position when the biasing element is in the second orientation.

54. (New)) A tensioner for tensioning a drive belt, comprising:
a housing;
an arm attached to the housing;
a reversible biasing element formed of a plurality of convolutions so that in a first orientation the convolutions spiral in a first direction and in a second orientation the convolutions spiral in a second direction;; and
a directional element connectable with the arm or the housing in a first orientation or a second orientation, wherein the directional element includes a graphical indicator relating to a desired direction for rotating the arm to tension a belt, wherein the biasing element impedes attaching the attachment to the housing or arm in the first orientation when the biasing element is in the second orientation..

55. (New) The tensioner of claim 54 wherein the housing comprises a pocket and a portion of the biasing element projects into a first portion of the pocket when the biasing element is in the first orientation and the portion of the biasing element

projects into a second portion of the pocket when the biasing element is in the second orientation, and wherein the directional element is cooperable with the portion of the biasing element projecting into the pocket to impede inserting the indicator into the pocket in the first position when the biasing element projects into the second portion of the pocket.

56. (New) The tensioner of claim 54 wherein the arm is releasably connected with the housing.

57. (New) The tensioner of claim 54 wherein the biasing element comprises a first end and a second end, wherein the first end of the biasing element engages the directional element to impede attaching the indicator to the housing or the arm in the first position when the biasing element is in the second orientation.

58. (New) The tensioner of claim 57 wherein the first end of the biasing element is positioned to facilitate connection of the directional element to the housing or the arm in the second position when the biasing element is in the second orientation.

59. (New) A method for tensioning a belt, comprising the steps of:

providing a base;

attaching a biasing element having a plurality of convolutions to the base in one of a first orientation in which the convolutions spiral in a first direction or a second direction in which the convolutions spiral in a second direction;

providing a housing;

attaching the housing to the base and the biasing element so that the housing encloses the biasing element and the biasing element is operable to provide a torsional force to bias the housing relative to the base;

connecting an indicator to the housing or the arm to identify a first direction for operating the tensioner to tension a belt when the belt is in the first

orientation or a second direction for operating the tensioner to tension a belt when the biasing element is in a second orientation.

60. (New) The method of claim 59 wherein the step of connecting an indicator comprises connecting the indicator when the biasing element is in a relaxed state.

61. (New) The method of claim 59 wherein the indicator is connectable with the housing or arm in a first position indicative of the biasing element being in the first orientation and a second position indicative of the biasing element being in the second orientation, wherein the step of attaching a biasing element comprises attaching the biasing element to the base so that the biasing element impedes connecting the indicator to the housing or the arm in the first direction when the biasing element is in the second orientation.